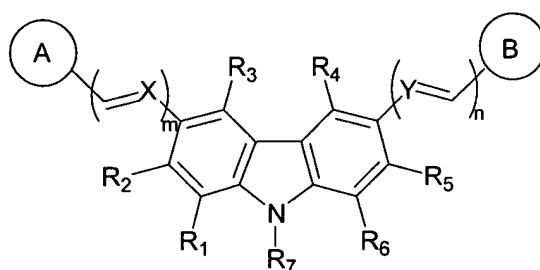


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein

each of rings A and B, independently, is heteroaryl containing at least one nitrogen atom;

each of X and Y, independently, is CH or N;

each of R₁-R₆, independently, is H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, OH, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, NH₂, C₁-C₆ alkylamino, C₁-C₁₂ dialkylamino, arylamino, diarylamino, or halogen;

R₇ is H, ~~C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl~~; and

each of m and n, independently, is 1, 2, or 3.

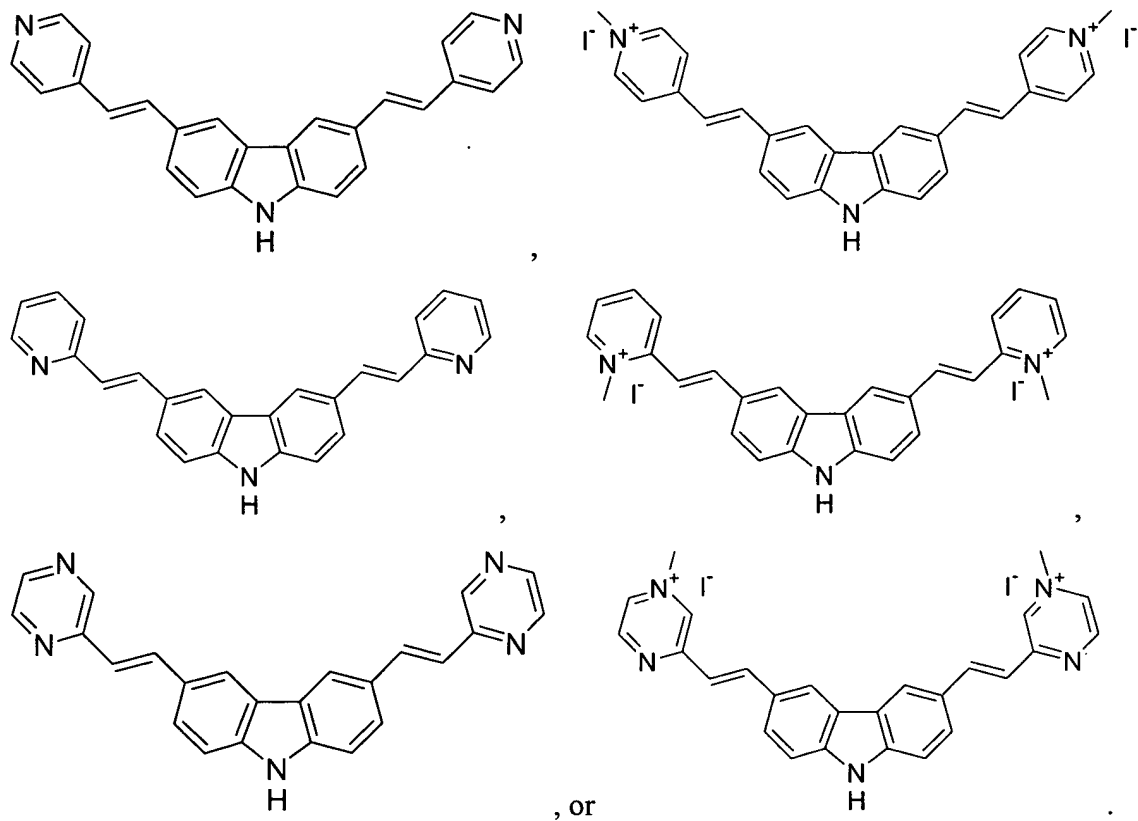
2. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein each of rings A and B is heteroaryl containing one or two nitrogen atoms.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 2, wherein each of m and n is 1.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 3, wherein each of R₁-R₇ is H.

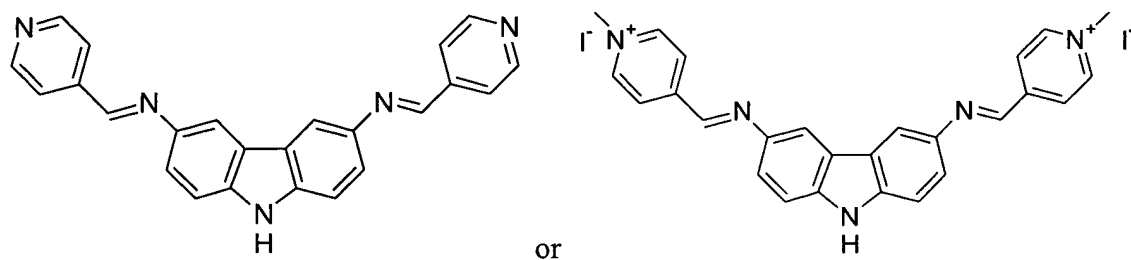
5. (Original) The compound of claim 4, wherein each of X and Y is CH.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein the compound is



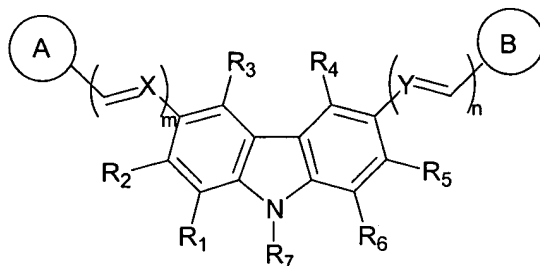
7. (Original) The compound of claim 4, wherein each of X and Y is N.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 7, wherein the compound is



9. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein each of m and n is 1.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 9, wherein each of R₁-R₇ is H.
11. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein each of R₁-R₇ is H.
12. (Original) A method for stabilizing a G-quadruplex of a telomere, comprising contacting a telomere with a compound of the formula:

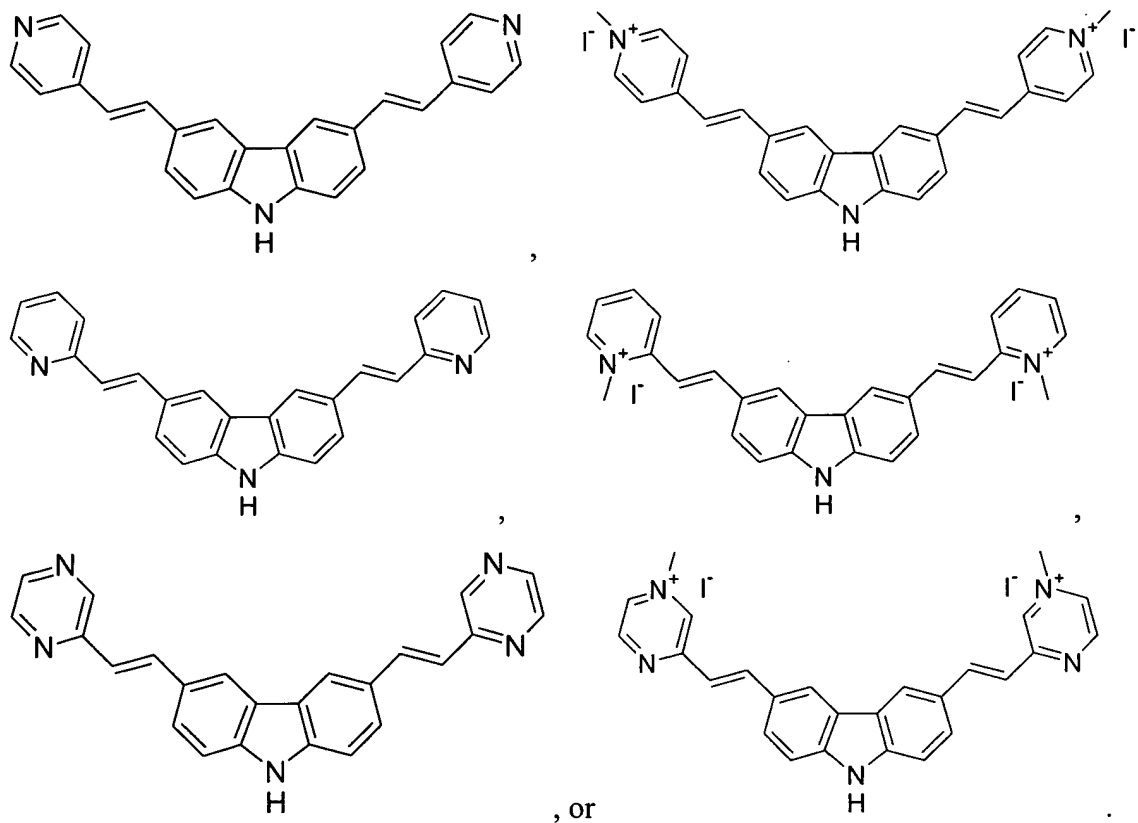


wherein

- each of rings A and B, independently, is heteroaryl containing at least one nitrogen atom;
- each of X and Y, independently, is CH or N;
- each of R₁-R₆, independently, is H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, OH, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, NH₂, C₁-C₆ alkylamino, C₁-C₁₂ dialkylamino, arylamino, diarylamino, or halogen;
- R₇ is H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈ heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl; and
- each of m and n, independently, is 1, 2, or 3.

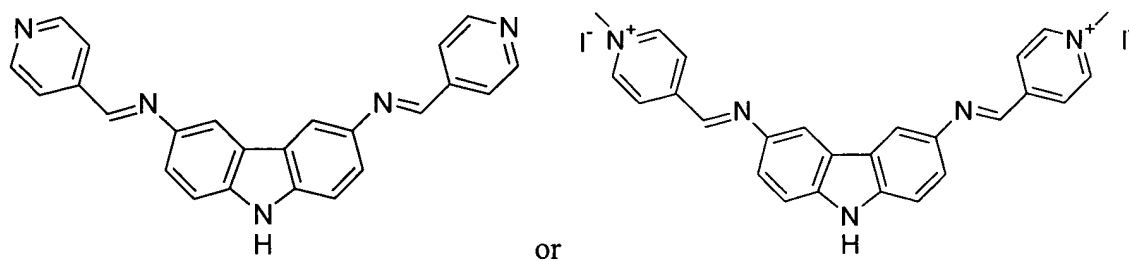
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein each of rings A and B is heteroaryl containing one or two nitrogen atoms.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein each of m and n is 1.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein each of R₁-R₇ is H.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein each of X and Y is CH.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the compound is



18. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein each of X and Y is N.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is



20. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein each of m and n is 1.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein each of R₁-R₇ is H.

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22. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein each of R_1 - R_7 is H.